

EDITORIAL

Annual General Meeting

The Group's nineteenth Annual General Meeting will be held in the Meeting Room, Central Library, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea on Saturday, January 21st, 1984 commencing at 1300 hrs. (for 1400 hrs.). A full range of Group publications, photographs and other items will be on sale at this meeting. Will members please note that the Group's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for 1983 will be available at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee will welcome members' questions and suggestions at this meeting, so please come along.

Subscription Renewal Reminder

Members who have not yet renewed their subscriptions for 1984 are urged to do so as soon as possible using the renewal form (green or white) sent out with last month's news sheet. No further reminders will be issued and the Membership Secretary regrets that it will not be possible to renew subscriptions at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. Any delay in renewing may also delay the despatch of your January news sheet - you have been warned! Finally, the Membership Secretary would also ask members not to staple cheques to the renewal form to save his fingers from further suffering!

Assistance At Rallies And Sales Events

The Group's sales stand attends a number of rallies and sales events during the course of each year, and is of course manned on a voluntary basis. Additional helpers are often required, and any members who are interested in assisting with this particular aspect of the Group's activities should contact the Events Secretary (K. Delahoy Esq., 120. Yarnacott, Thorpe Bay, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS3 8AW. Tel. Southend-on-Sea 588590). Our programme of attendance at rallies and sales events during 1984 is now being planned, and any offers of additional help will be welcomed. As an incentive, helpers normally obtain free admission to the events, and usually have the opportunity to visit other sales stands etc. prior to the admission of the general public.

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EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

NIL

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Allocations & Transfers

12.83 1122 D/L-BD, 1123 D/L-BE, 1124 D/L-BN, 1125 D/L-BS, 1126 D/L-MN,
1127 D/L-CR, 1534 BD (P)-PL (P).

1122-7 will replace the remaining six Bedford YMT dual-purpose vehicles (1212-7), and these vehicles are expected to be delicensed during early 1984, prior to their withdrawal from the fleet.

A full fleet allocation is published on page 6 of this news sheet.

Vehicle Repaints

The Company has again kindly given the Group details of vehicles repainted during recent weeks, and this continues from the information published in NS236 :-

November : w/e 5.11.83 - 1411 at CW (additional to NS236).

w/e 12.11.83 - 3023 at CW.

w/e 19.11.83 - 1802 at CW.

w/e 26.11.83 - 3075 at CW (City 400 livery).

Leyland National 1916 (JHJ142V) is currently at Central Works being repainted as an overall advertisement for Brittain's (estate agents) of Bishop's Stortford. The

livery of this vehicle is predominantly blue with white lettering, and its first public appearance is scheduled to be in a carnival procession in Bishop's Stortford on December 17th.

Re-built Vehicle

Leyland National 2200 (UCO 46L), which is equipped to carry disabled persons, has recently been modified. A ramp has been fitted at the centre exit, and a 'kneeling' suspension system has been fitted to the nearside of the vehicle. The original seats have now been replaced by 20 coach type (non-reclining) seats, and space is now provided for 8 wheelchairs. This work was carried out at Central Works during late-November, and the seating capacity of this vehicle should be revised to G20D (plus 8 wheelchairs).

Service Vehicles

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, it should be noted that the Atkinson recovery vehicle 0103 is now operating on trade plate 572 VX. The conversion of Guy Big J4T recovery vehicle 0104 is now complete, and this vehicle was noted at Trimoco Trucks (A12) Ltd., Chelmsford on December 8th receiving final modifications prior to entering service at HH.

Driver training vehicle 9020 (LFS299F), which was delicensed for disposal (D/L (D)) during August, has recently been moved from the main yard at Central Works to the smaller driver training vehicle yard at New Writtle Street.

Temporary Loans

Colchester (CR) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to Harwich (DT) during November were 1536, 3001, 3022, 3030 and 3050. 1406 CN and 1548 CN also operated on loan to DT during November, whilst 3045 PL (P) still remained on loan during early December (see also NS236), and operated new service 423 (Harwich-Ipswich) on November 29th.

General

Following the news published in NS235 regarding the planned closure of Halstead (HD) depot and the redevelopment of the Old Station Yard, which is currently used by Eastern National and other operators as a bus station, the Halstead Gazette (November 25th) has recently published further details regarding the closure of the Old Station Yard. It is reported that the bus station facility will close by February, and that the bus operators concerned are now reviewing the arrangements for utilising existing bus stops in the town centre as terminal points.

Firm details regarding the closure of Halstead (HD) depot are not yet available, although it is currently anticipated that this will occur during early 1984, possibly during February or March. The Halstead Gazette (November 25th) has also published an interesting article regarding the opening of the depot in the late 1930's, and its early years of operation.

Publicity News

New publicity material published during recent weeks has been as follows :-

- Essex County Council leaflets - a timetable revision leaflet (No. 1) for the Colchester/Clacton/Harwich area book, dated November 1983.
 - a timetable revision leaflet (No. 1) for the Braintree/Dunmow/Witham/Halstead area book, dated November 1983.
 - a timetable revision leaflet (No. 2) for the Basildon and Thurrock area book, dated November 1983.
 - a timetable leaflet containing details of the revised bus services introduced in the Harwich and Dovercourt area, dated November 27th.
- Timetable leaflets - a new timetable leaflet for service 423, with details of the extended period of operation to April 24th, dated December 1983.
- a pocket timetable card for services to Stansted Airport, dated November 1983.
- Leisure Break Holidays - a leaflet with details of a Leisure Break New Year's Eve cruise to Belgium (LB318).

Christmas Shopping leaflet - a leaflet with details of late night Christmas shopping facilities in Chelmsford on December 8th/15th, including details of additional journeys on services 36, 43 and 353, and two half fare vouchers for travel between 1930-2200 hrs. on these dates.

Service Developments

The Company has applied for a small number of revisions to stage services, and brief details of these proposed changes are as follows :-

- 4 - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 40 - Mondays to Fridays : two minor timetable changes.
- 151 - Weekdays : one minor timetable change.
- 234 - Schooldays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 338 - Schooldays : one minor timetable change.

Recent applications affecting the commuter services jointly operated with Grey-Green Coaches Ltd. have been as follows :-

- 193 - Revised timetable to incorporate an additional journey departing at 0625 hrs. from Braintree (Mountbatten Road) to London (Victoria, Buckingham Palace Road). (Members should note that this is the journey listed in last month's news sheet as starting from White Courts Estate at 0640 hrs., and which in fact starts from Mountbatten Road; this journey was re-timed from 0635 hrs. on October 24th).
- 195 - Two service 191 journeys to be included on this licence (see also NS236), with revised route via Coggeshall, Braintree, A120 and M11, and revised timetable; this revision was also introduced from October 24th.

The period of operation for service 423 (Harwich-Ipswich) has now been extended to April 24th (Tuesdays only) (see also NS235).

Short term licences have been granted to the Company for service 423 (Tuesdays only - November 10th-May 9th), Highwayman service 817 (Saturdays only - September 29th-March 23th) and shopping services from Writtle (Lodge Road/Paradise Road) and Galleywood (Barnard Road/West Lawn) to Chelmer Village (ASDA store) (Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays - November 10th-May 9th).

The Company has applied for route revisions for all excursions operating from the Southend area via Basildon, with two feeder services between Shoeburyness and Southend, and Canvey Island and Basildon. Three additional excursions are also proposed from Southend to Streatham (Ice Rink), Croydon and Maidstone.

Service revisions introduced during recent weeks have been as follows : 40 - 12.12.83 (NS236); 79 - 28.11.83 (NS236); 80/A - 28.11.83 (NS236); 96A - 28.11.83 (NS236); 98A - 29.11.83 (NS236); 99 - service withdrawn from November 28th (NS236); 103 - 27.11.83 (NS236); 104 - 28.11.83 (NS236); 105 - 28.11.83 (NS236); 106 - 28.11.83 (NS236); 107 - service introduced from November 28th (NS236); 120/1/2 - 27.11.83 (120) and 28.11.83 (121/2) (NS236); 126 - 28.11.83 (NS236).

Unusual Workings

Details of unusual workings which have been supplied by members during recent weeks are as follows :-

- 6.11-3085/97/9 and 3103 (all HH) operated a rail replacement service from Southend (Victoria) to Wickford.
- 13.11-3099, 3107 and 3109 (all HH) and Southend Transport 232/40 operated a rail replacement service from Southend (Victoria) to Wickford.
- 17.11-1733 HH noted on service 106; 3045 PL (P) observed on service 75A.
- 19.11-1772 BN and 1934 BN both noted at SD depot; 1933 SD noted on service 62.
- 20.11-3097, 3103 and 3107 (all HH) operated a rail replacement service from Southend (Victoria) to Wickford.
- 25.11-1302 CF noted on private hire work at Rayleigh.
- 26.11-1922 BN noted on private hire work at Southend; 3120 BN noted on service 400.
- 27.11-3055 SE, 3110/2/25/6 (all CF) operated a rail replacement service from Chelmsford to Witham; 3097/9 and 3103 (all HH) operated a similar service from Pitsea to Tilbury.

- 23.11-1530 CN noted on service 11A.
 29.11-1871 HH noted on service 74.
 1.12-1216 BN noted at Aldgate on service 722.
 2.12-1126 MN noted on service 119, on its first day in service.
 3.12-4000 SD observed on service 64.
 4.12-1111 CR noted on service 119; 1113 DT noted on private hire work at Witham Sunday Market; 3097/9, 3103/9 (all HH) operated a rail replacement service from Pitsea to Tilbury.
 5.12-1707 CF noted on service 58B.
 8.12-3018 PL (P) noted at CF depot.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

Acquired Vehicles

Full details are now available regarding the three Leyland Atlanteans recently acquired from Tyne & Wear P.T.E.

51	MVK538R	Leyland AN68A/2R	7601728	Alexander H48/34F	AL51/3875/39	New 12/76
52	MVK546R	Leyland AN68A/2R	7606994	Alexander H48/34F	AL51/3875/47	New 1/77
53	MVK548R	Leyland AN68A/2R	7606386	Alexander H48/34F	AL51/3875/49	New 1/77

Ex. Tyne & Wear P.T.E. 538 (9/83), 546/8 (10/83).

As reported in NS235, these vehicles were converted to single door configuration by Tyne & Wear P.T.E. prior to delivery to Colchester Transport. 51 (MVK538R) was the first of these vehicles to enter service, and it has been repainted in an overall advertising livery for the Bus and Coach Council, incorporating the slogan 'We'd all miss the bus'. The livery is predominantly cream, with a crimson engine cover and skirt. It should also be noted that these vehicles are fitted with a nearside staircase, and at the time of writing 52/3 remained at the Magdalen Street depot being prepared for service.

Withdrawn Vehicle

12.83

14 (YWC 14L)

It is reported that this vehicle was sold during early December, and confirmation is requested. A further report also states that the other delicensed Bristol RELL6L's (15 and 17) have been removed recently from the Magdalen Street depot, although it is not known at the present time whether they have been withdrawn and sold.

Vehicles On Hire

Southend Transport 224 (XTE224V) was returned to Southend during early December, at which time Leyland Leopard coach 102 (DHK102T) returned to Colchester, having been on hire to Southend Transport for over three months.

The former London Transport Daimler Fleetline JGF321K, now owned by Brockhouse Maxwell Bus Transmissions of West Bromwich, completed its period of hire to Colchester Transport during late-November, having been last noted in service on November 21st.

General

As a correction to NS236, it should be noted that Leyland Atlantean 50 (AVX 50G) was not delicensed during early-November, and the vehicle was noted in service later in the month.

On November 20th, the 1715 hrs. and 1903 hrs. rail services from Colchester to Sudbury were operated by Bristol RELL6L's 28 (SWC 28K) and 22 (OWC722M) respectively

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Vehicles On Order

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, it can now be confirmed that Southend Transport has placed an order for six 12 metre Leyland Tiger 218 coaches to be fitted with Duple Caribbean C57F bodywork.

It is also understood that three second-hand Leyland Leopard coaches are being

acquired from Ensign Bus Co., Purfleet (dealer). One of these vehicles is XHU 326, a Leyland Leopard PSU3C/4R with Plaxton C53F bodywork, which was latterly owned by Graham's Bus Service Ltd., Paisley and which had been re-registered by that operator from its original registration HWU 72N. The vehicle was new to Wallace Arnold Tours Ltd., and it is believed that the other two second-hand coaches will also be ex-Wallace Arnold vehicles. Further details regarding these acquisitions will be published as soon as they become available.

It can also be confirmed that five Daimler Fleetlines are to be re-bodied with new Northern Counties bodywork. The vehicles concerned are 374-7/9 (GHJ374L etc.), and work has already commenced on the preparation of 377 for its new body. Most of the original body has now been removed at the Tickfield Road works, and this vehicle will be completed prior to the other four vehicles being prepared.

Withdrawn Vehicles

Further to the notes published in NS235, 217 (MJN217F) and 363 (WJN363J) were sold to Hearn, Leigh-on-Sea (breaker).

Vehicles On Hire

As noted above, Colchester Transport 102 (DHK102T) was returned to Colchester during early December. All other vehicles as listed in NS236 remain on hire, and the following additional information regarding the various vehicles hired since August can now be published.

Leicester City Transport

9 VUB394H Leyland Leopard PSU3A/4R 7001210 Plaxton C49F 709183 New 4/70
New to Wallace Arnold Tours Ltd.; ex. Smith, Tysoe, 1/76.
49 TBC 49X Dennis Dominator DDA101/349 East Lancs H43/33F 418 New 11/81

Bournemouth Transport

104 FEL104L Leyland Leopard PSU3B/4R 7300036 Plaxton C51F 733593 New 6/73
105 FEL105L Leyland Leopard PSU3B/4R 7300038 Plaxton C51F 733594 New 6/73
106 UTM 4K Leyland Leopard PSU3B/4R 7101952 Plaxton C51F 729032 New -/71
107 UTM 5K Leyland Leopard PSU3B/4R 7101853 Plaxton C51F 729039 New -/71
106/7 new to Mid Warwickshire Motorways, Balsall Common, and acquired by Bournemouth Transport, 4/76.

Burnley & Pendle Transport

3 YHG 3N Leyland Leopard PSU3B/4R 7404706 Duple C49F 434/5318 New 11/74
12 WRN 12R Leyland Leopard PSU3D/4R 7602206 Alexander DP45F --- New 3/77

Fylde Borough Transport

42 HRN 97N Leyland Leopard PSU3C/4R 7503096 Plaxton C53F --- New 7/75

General

Leyland Fleetline 235 (MRJ235W) has also been fitted with a steel front bumper, similar to that fitted to 241 (see NS235).

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS

Subsequent Disposals

'National' numbering scheme

4081 (ONO 995) - Eastern National Preservation Group (for preservation), by 6/82, verified as with E.N.P.G., 10/83. Previously reported as in use as a store shed by Jaram and Marsden, 4/83. (see NS235). Was the vehicle not collected until some time after acquisition by E.N.P.G., or was there a second vehicle, resembling ONO 995, in use as a store shed. Confirmation and clarification awaited.

1951-1964 numbering scheme

336 (PHK 534) - Hodges (N-PSV), Sheffield, by 9/64, ex. dealer, Ingham.
1201 (BNO687T) - Cropley, Fosdyke, by 9/83, ex. dealer, Thurcroft.
1206 (BNO692T) - Whiston, Shirland, 9/83, ex. dealer, Thurcroft.
1516 (FWC439H) - Still with dealer, Purfleet, 10/83.
2752 (JWC 712) - Still with dealer, Purfleet, 3/83.

REMAINDER HELD OVER TO NEXT MONTH (NS238)

Eastern National Fleet Allocation - December 1983

Basildon (BN)	: 1124 1216 1704(DS)/11-7/21(DS)/3/32/6//8/40-2/4/6/8/63/7/72/6 1786/95 1808/18/20/2/30/43/4/7-9/52-4/74/7-80/3/4/6/7/9/91/6/8 1904/6-9/18/9/22/34 3000/54/67(DS)/8/9/74/6 3117/20, (71)
Bishop's Stortford (BS)	: 1054/7/8 1125 1214 1533/51 1749/59 1914/6 3041 3114 (13)
Braintree (BE)	: 1051 1120/3 1213 1413 1542 1794 1863/82 1902/24/9/30/2 3004/19(DS)/29/56/63 3115/28 (21)
Brentwood (BD)	: 1055 1117/8/22 1217 1414 1700(DS)/19/22/54/60/85/97 1809/10 1823/37-40/5/6/59/76/81 1903/12/3/33 3026/91-4 3111 (35)
Chelmsford (CF)	: 1121 1302 1546(DS)/9 1701(DS)/7*/30/4/52/62/71/4/5/8 1801/2 1804/5/11/5/9/24(DS)/7/9/32/41/2/50/1/5/6/60/6/7/9/70/3/85/97/9 1905/15/7*/39 2200 3002/21/33/5/62/77/8/80-2 3100/6/10/2/3 3125/6 (62)
Clacton (CN)	: 1050 1300/5/7 1406/12/5/9 1530(DS)/48/50/3/4 1705(DS)/51/6 1761/8/9/79/80/9/91/2 1800/3/25/6/34/58 1911 3003/31 (33)
Colchester (CR)	: 1053 1111/2/27 1215 1301 1528/36/47(P)/52 1710(DS)/90/3 1816/28/65/72/88/92 1923/5/35/6 3001/22/3/30/2/50/95 3124/7 (32)
Hadleigh (HH)	: 1703/9/18/20(DS)/5-7/31/3/5/7/9/43/53/7/8/65/77/81/4 1817/21/35 1857/64/71/90 1900/28 3085/97/9 3103/7/9 (35)
Halstead (HD)	: 1119 1409 1524/44 1782 1926 3048/58/9/66 3118 (11)
Harwich (DT)	: 1056 1113 1532 1750 1901/20 3027/61 (8)
Maldon (MN)	: 1052/9 1116/26 1212 1539/40(P) 1708(DS)/28/55/64 1806/31/3 1921/7/31 3038/40/9/51/79 (22)
Silver End (SE)	: 1110 1306 1545 1745/83 1812/3/61/2 3020/39/55/60 3123 (14)
Southend (SD)	: 1114/5 1303/4 1404/7/10/1/6-8 1702/24/9(DS)/47/66/70/3/87/8 1798/9 1807/14/36/68/75/93-5 1910/37/8 3024(DS)/5/8/34/6/7 3052/3/7/64/5/70-3/5/83/4/6-90/6/8 3101/2/4/5/8/16/9/21/2/9 4000-2 (71)
Delicensed For Maintenance (D/L)	: 1796 (1)
Licensed Pool Vehicles (PL-(P))	: 1534/41 3014/8/45/7 (6)
Licensed As Private Vehicles (L)	: 2383/4 (2)
Driver Training Vehicles	: 9016/8/21 (allocated to BD) (3)
Delicensed For Disposal (D/L (D))	: 9020 (1)

Notes - (DS) denotes Docking Spare vehicle.

(P) denotes Pool vehicle.

Chelmsford (CF) allocation includes Great Dunmow outstation (DW) - 1 sd,
and Clacton (CN) allocation includes Walton-on-Naze (WN) - 4 sd.

1707 and 1917 are Accident Pool vehicles.

1114/5 are at present attached to the Coaching Department.

The next full fleet allocation will be published in the April news sheet.

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), M.L. Weyell (M10), R.H. Palmer (M105), R. Delahoy (M180), P.W. Harvey (M219), J.S. Wilby (M298), S.D. Barham (M313), D. Arnold (M379), J.G. Collins (M405), I. Ransom (M421), G.G. Toon (M452), J.H. Preston (M512), C.M.J. Paynter (M515), C.D. Sigston (M523), G. Huggins (AM1) and the P.S.V. Circle.

Notes and information for the January news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor (address below) to arrive by Wednesday, January 18th.

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12/83
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